

refining markets in the United States and will significantly reduce America's reliance on oil from overseas as new jobs are created in Canada and America. As oil sands production grows in the next 4 years, the industry is expected to generate 340,000 new jobs. This is in addition to the 110,000 jobs currently provided. There are more than 900 American businesses that supply goods and services for the Canadian oil sands development.

In my home State of South Carolina, oil sands development will add up to \$128 million per year to the State's economy, and it will support nearly 2,000 jobs per year. Companies in South Carolina supply equipment, parts and services used in the oil sands projects and pipelines.

In this picture, we are standing in front of a 12-foot-high tire made by Michelin in Lexington County, South Carolina. Each tire is valued at \$60,000. The Michelin plants in Lexington currently employ over 500 people in the Earth-mover division. The tire manufacturer also has facilities in the upcountry of our State, with their North American headquarters in Greenville.

There are also over 100 large mine haul trucks operating in the oil sands, powered by MTU engines. The engines are produced in Aiken County, South Carolina. By next year, the plant in Graniteville will be producing MTU's largest engine for the haul truck market. When MTU announced last year that Aiken County was to be its home for its new manufacturing facility, the company pledged to invest \$45 million and to create 250 new jobs over 4 years. However, last month, plant officials said MTU is already employing 250 people and will achieve its investment goal by the end of this year.

It's very simple. If Canadian families do well, American families do well. For every dollar the U.S. spends on imports from Canada, 90 cents is returned to the American economy, paying for equipment and services. Developing the oil sands is clearly more jobs for Canada and more jobs for America. We all know our country needs to be less dependent on oil from overseas. Canada's oil sands are clearly mutually beneficial to Canada and America and the security of North America.

Very significantly, Canada's enormous deposits of 175.2 billion barrels of proven reserves of oil place it third in the world, and 170 billion of these barrels are in the oil sands. These deposits place Canada as one of the central sources of production growth in the coming decades. It represents about 60 percent of the world's accessible oil, which is right here in our neighborhood. I am grateful that Canada is our largest trading partner and the largest supplier of oil to America. Canada contributes 22 percent of the total oil imports for America's daily use of 19.1 million barrels.

Congress has indicated its support for oil sands. In July, we passed the North

American-Made Energy Security Act. This bill urges the President to approve the pipeline. I appreciate jobs for Alberta which produce jobs for America.

VOTER SUPPRESSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Before I start, Mr. Speaker, let me just take a moment to comment about one of the previous speakers this morning, my dear friend, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE from the State of California.

Congresswoman LEE has been an advocate for low-income families for as long as I can remember; and especially since I first came to Congress some 7½ years ago, she has been tenacious on this issue. I just want to publicly thank her for her advocacy. I represent a low-income/low-wealth district in eastern North Carolina. My district is the fourth poorest district in the Nation, so I understand full well the challenges that she has confronted, and I thank her so very much.

Mr. Speaker, I've come to the floor this morning to talk about voter suppression—yes, voter suppression—across the country. Republicans are tightening the restrictions on who can vote and on how Americans can vote. During next year's elections, there will be millions of Americans who will find that since 2008 there are now new barriers that could prevent them from voting.

The number of States with laws requiring voters to show government-issued photo identification has quadrupled. Mr. Speaker, it has quadrupled in the last 4 years. Actually, over the last year, it has quadrupled. In fact, at least 34 States have now introduced legislation that would require voters to show photo identification in order to vote. Seven States—Alabama, Kansas, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin—have already signed photo identification bills into law. Before this legislative session, only two States had ever imposed strict photo identification. Under the guise of eliminating voter fraud, 21 million American citizens, or 11 percent of Americans, could be prevented from voting—all because they do not possess government-issued photo identification.

Republicans are also seeking to put an end to early voting—a hugely popular voting method that is used by millions of Americans. At least nine States have introduced bills to reduce their early voting periods. Four States have tried to reduce absentee voting opportunities, and two States have reversed early reforms. Once again, it has disenfranchised thousands of taxpaying citizens who have past criminal convictions while a number of other States have made it much more difficult for citizens to register to vote. These new

restrictions will undoubtedly disenfranchise young voters, minority voters, low-income voters, and voters with disabilities—all of whom, as we know, traditionally vote with the Democratic Party.

In my home State of North Carolina, Republicans have mounted two strong efforts to suppress low-income and African American voters—House bill 351, for example, a voter ID bill which passed our State House and Senate earlier this year. It was vetoed by Governor Beverly Perdue, and we thank her for being strong in vetoing that legislation.

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Senate bill 47, which would reduce the early voting period by 1 week, eliminates Sunday voting, and eliminates same-day voter registration. This bill is currently pending now in our legislature.

The right to vote, Mr. Speaker, is protected. It is dearly protected by more constitutional amendments—the 1st Amendment and the 14th Amendment, 15th, 19th, 24th, and even the 26th Amendments—than any other right we enjoy as Americans. We must continue to inform our constituents that their fundamental right in this democracy is being infringed and urge them to fight back against this voter suppression epidemic.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, it is obvious to me that any objective observer who is looking at this will know the real motive of this effort. It is specifically intended to diminish voter participation of some in our society who support progressive movements and who support the Democratic Party.

HONORING DR. MILTON A. GORDON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Dr. Milton A. Gordon for his distinguished career. Dr. Gordon has served for over two decades as president of California State University, Fullerton.

I first met Milt Gordon more than 20 years ago when he was in his first year as president of my alma mater, Cal State Fullerton. As State senator then and a Member of Congress now, I have met countless community leaders, including university presidents, and I have enjoyed a good working relationship with them. Very few, however, have I come to admire and respect more than Milt Gordon. Very few do I call my very good friend.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Gordon's impressive achievements and commitment to education were evident long before he became the president of Cal State Fullerton. As our country was undergoing the civil rights movement, Milt Gordon was breaking through longstanding racial barriers. He obtained a bachelor of science in mathematics and secondary education at Xavier University of Louisiana in 1957, a master of arts in mathematics at the University of Detroit in